
The RSPB Macclesfield Local Group



giving
nature
a home

The Heron



Newsletter - Mid-October 2020

Zoom Presentations: Sixty one members watched *Heading North* by David Boag recently, the Committee hope that you enjoyed it. Thank you to those members who have already sent feedback about the talk. The Committee value these comments as we strive to improve the experience. If you have any comments it's not too late to let us know your views; what you liked, what could be done better as we are all learning to live with this new way of working. For example, can you hear the speaker well, is the speech in time with the image, is the quality of the images acceptable, do you like the content - is it interesting etc?

Please send any feedback to newsletter@macclesfieldrspb.org.uk

We think it maybe helpful if we explained the zoom process as we have received a few comments about the time between the zoom waiting room opening and the start of the meeting. **All presentations will start promptly at 7:45 pm.** The Zoom meeting platform will open to join the meeting from 7:00 pm because Zoom meeting slots are allocated in blocks of 30 mins and like our normal indoor meeting we need time to check that communications with the speaker to share his images etc all work.

When the audience log in they are taken to the virtual zoom waiting room and only admitted to the meeting proper when we are sure everything is in working order. When all checks are complete, Lydia will start the admission process and it is helpful if you name the device you are using with your surname, especially if you choose not to enable your video, so Lydia can see how many members are joining us.

After full admission to the meeting the audience should see our Welcome slide, which confirms they are in the right place. This could be reassuring for people who use zoom a lot for family or other society presentations. **Promptly at 7:45 pm, our regular start time for indoor meetings, Lydia will hand over to the meeting host (Ray Evans to date and others in future) to introduce the speaker and start the show.**

We would encourage you to use the Chat system if you would like to ask a question, to date we haven't received many questions.

This is a new medium for presentations and it is taking some getting used to. It must be strange for the speaker because they don't receive any audience feedback - sighs, groans or laughs so please unmute yourself at the end when allowed to give some applause.

Our next zoom presentation, *Birds of Moor and Mountain - controversy or cooperation* by Andre Farrar could not be better timed. At the recent RSPB AGM they announced the outcome of the Gamebird Shooting Policy Review that we anticipate Andre will comment on, when he zooms into our living rooms **at 7:45 pm on Tuesday 10 November.**

Ian and Lydia Taylor

RSPB Christmas Cards

Please support the RSPB Macclesfield Local Group this year when you buy your RSPB Christmas cards, calendars and diaries.

The Combined Charities Card shops will be open for you to choose your favourites from November 7 to December 5. All Covid-19 secure.

- Macclesfield Library - Monday to Friday 9.30am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 4.30pm and Saturday 9.30am to 12.30pm.
- Wilmslow retail unit in Grove Street - 10am to 4pm Monday to Saturday.

However, if you are staying safely at home you can email your order to us.
Make your selection from your RSPB catalogue

or

view online at <https://shopping.rspb.org.uk/charity-christmas-cards/>
Full details of the ordering process are shown below.

You will receive 50p off each pack of cards and £1.50 off calendars with NO POSTAGE to pay.
This year, all diaries and calendars will need to be orders only.

All the profits go to the RSPB but our Macclesfield Local Group will be allocated 35% of all sales.
Sadly this will probably be our biggest way of raising funds this year.
So please get in touch. We would love to hear from you anyway.

ORDERING

- Order by email to sales@macclesfieldrspb.org.uk
- An acknowledgement to email orders will be sent within 24 hours.
- If the acknowledgement is not received please contact us again.
- Please order as soon as possible to mitigate delivery delays.
- Orders will be combined and placed with the RSPB at least once a week so receipt of stock is likely to be between 7 and 14 days but we will endeavour to keep waiting times as short as possible. We may have some items in stock.
- Any discounts offered in the catalogue, such as £1 off for two packs of cards, will be applicable to orders through the group.

COLLECTION

- There will be no delivery charges.
- You will be advised when your order is ready for collection.
- Ideally orders to be collected at a prearranged time with Jen and Dave Tolliday
- If orders cannot be collected deliveries will be available in Macclesfield and close surrounding areas.
- Stock will be placed in an RSPB carrier bag for collection.
- Please wear a face mask and keep the prescribed social distance when collecting your order.

PAYMENT

- Payment preferably online when you make your order, to 'RSPB Reg Ch 107076 Macclesfield No2 a/c' (that's the official name of the bank account) at the Co-op Bank. Sort code 08-90-28. Account number 70750649, Ref: Christmas Cards.
- Please advise us if you have paid online.
- Alternatively pay by cheque or give the correct amount of cash on collection.

Jen and David Tolliday

Special Offer - up to 20% Off Bird Food Prices

While we cannot hold indoor meetings, Dennis Wood has agreed to sell birdfood from his home in Congleton. **Please email birdfood@macclesfieldrspb.org.uk to place your order and take advantage of this special offer.** When the stock is gone we will not be replenishing until we resume meeting at the Senior Citizens' Hall.

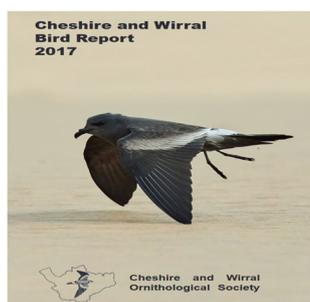
	Weight	Normal Price	Special Offer	No Available
Black Sunflower	1.53kg	£2.50	£2.00	4
Sunflower Hearts	2.0kg	£5.60	£4.50	7
Peanuts	1.31kg	£3.00	£2.40	2
Peanuts	2.5kg	£5.00	£4.50	9
Mixed Seed	2.68kg	£2.50	£2.00	3
Nyjer Seed	1.44 kg	£2.50	£2.00	1
Fat Balls	Bag of 10	£2 per 10	£1.60	9
Mealworms		£4.50 per tub	£3.60	2

If you live in Congleton, Dennis will provide his address for collection. However, as Dennis no longer drives if you live outside of Congleton, we may be able to deliver depending on your address. Please contact Lydia Taylor (membership@macclesfieldrspb.org.uk), to see if this is possible before placing your order with Dennis.

Payment on-line, Lloyds Bank plc Biggleswade Branch, Sort Code 30-90-79, Account number 34016760, Ref: *Bird Food*, after Dennis confirms he can supply your order. When picking up your order please wear a face mask and keep the prescribed social distance.

Dennis Wood and Ian Taylor

CAWOS Bird Report



We're delighted to say that the Bird Report for 2017 is now available - with many people working together to develop the content and get it printed. The Report is now produced in the larger B5 format with full colour printing. The front cover is graced by Leach's Petrel, the CAWOS logo, captured at close range against the sands of New Brighton.

Full colour has given the opportunity to include 80 great images of birds whatever their abundance or popularity and includes two-page spreads for raptors, gulls, corvids and Leach's Petrel.

The Report has 160 pages and draws on over 170,000 records from a wide range of sources – Birdtrack, BTO WeBS and Breeding Bird Survey, rECOrd, major site reports, website records, ringing reports and of course records from individual observers. An annual Bird Report is the one document that brings all these records together on a County basis.

The Bird Report is free to Cheshire and Wirral Ornithological Society members (ordinary membership costs £15), otherwise it costs £10 + £2 p&p and copies are available from:
 David Cogger, 71 Parkgate, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 8HF
 Tel: 01565 228503 Email: davidcogger@cawos.org,

Ted Lock
CAWOS Secretary

Weekends Away 2021

We still have two weekends away planned for 2021:

Northumberland 14-17 May 2021

Somerset 2-4 October 2021

These weekends were originally planned for 2020 and the hotels have moved our booking forward by a year. We are hoping the COVID-19 situation improves by next May and will enable us to enjoy a weekend birdwatching together.

We have a limited number of places available and we welcome new enquiries to join us.

Please contact Graham Palmer by calling 01625 420179 or if you prefer email graham@macclesfieldrspb.org.uk for details

The hotels will be COVID-19 compliant and the weekends are subject to RSPB and Government Guidelines.

Graham Palmer

Diary Dates

November 2020

Saturday 7	Macclesfield Library and Wilmslow Charity Card Shops OPEN Assuming no changes in Government Guidelines we understand the annual Charity Card Shops plan to open today.
Tuesday 10	ZOOM Meeting: Birds of Moor and Mountain - controversy or co-operation by Andre Farrar Contact: Lydia Taylor by eMail - membership@macclesfieldrspb.org.uk if you haven't already shown interest in receiving our Zoom presentations and would like to be added to the list. Zoom Introduced by Rob Cameron

Did You Know

Shopping online using **Easyfundraising** has raised **£1,08.76 for the Group**. This is at no extra cost to the you the user! The Local Group receive a free donation of up to 15% (mostly between 1-5%) from every purchase you make.

Please consider registering at <http://easyfundraising.org.uk/rspbmacclesfield> and select RSPB Macclesfield as the organisation you wish to support.

Easysearch is another way to raise funds for the Local Group every time you search the internet. It's completely free to use so please check out our unique *Easysearch* page at <http://rspbmacclesfield.easysearch.org.uk>

Thank you

Editor